Department of Veterans Affairs

Memorandum

Date: 03/18/2021

From: Matthew Bennett

Subj: Text Message of Photo: "Brown Sugar" Soap

To: Memorandum For Record

On 03/18/2021, at 1911 hours, I, Matthew BENNETT, while at home, I received a text message from Joshua FISTER. Joshua FISTER is a middle-aged male of Euro-Descent and is a Lieutenant (Supervisor) for the Phoenix VA Police Department.

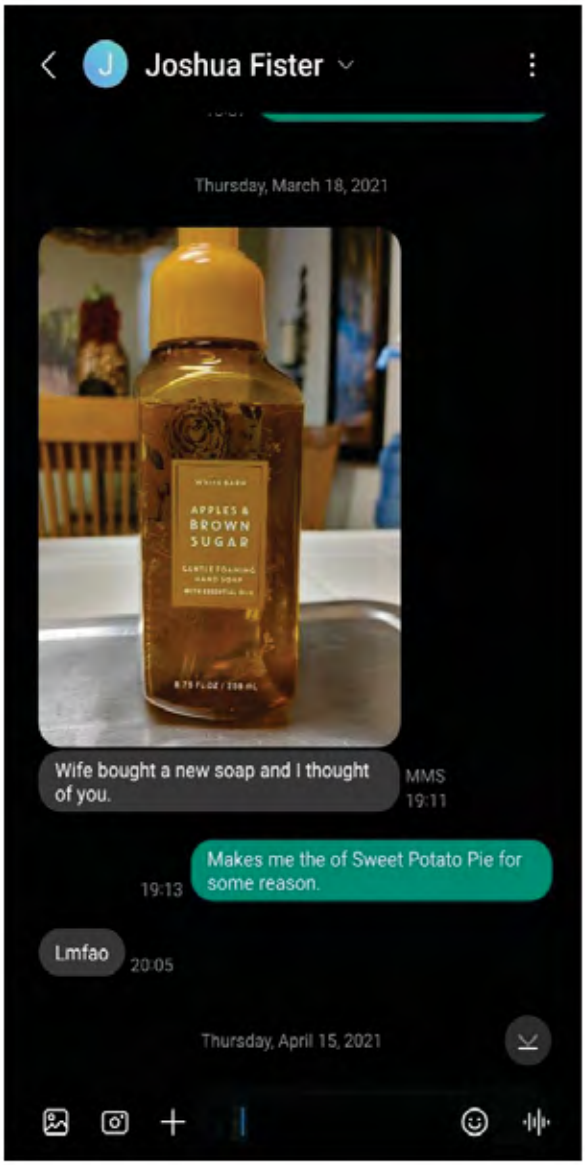
The text message stated, "*Wife bought a new soap and I thought of you.*" The message had a picture of White Barn gentle foaming hand soap titled "Apples & **Brown Sugar**" (see evidence below) I immediately inferred that the "Brown Sugar" was related to me being of African-Descent ("African-American") and also Sweet Potato Pie (because of the smell). Though eaten in many Euro-American communities, Sweet Potato Pie is a known meal eaten in African American communities; specifically, in the South region of the United States.

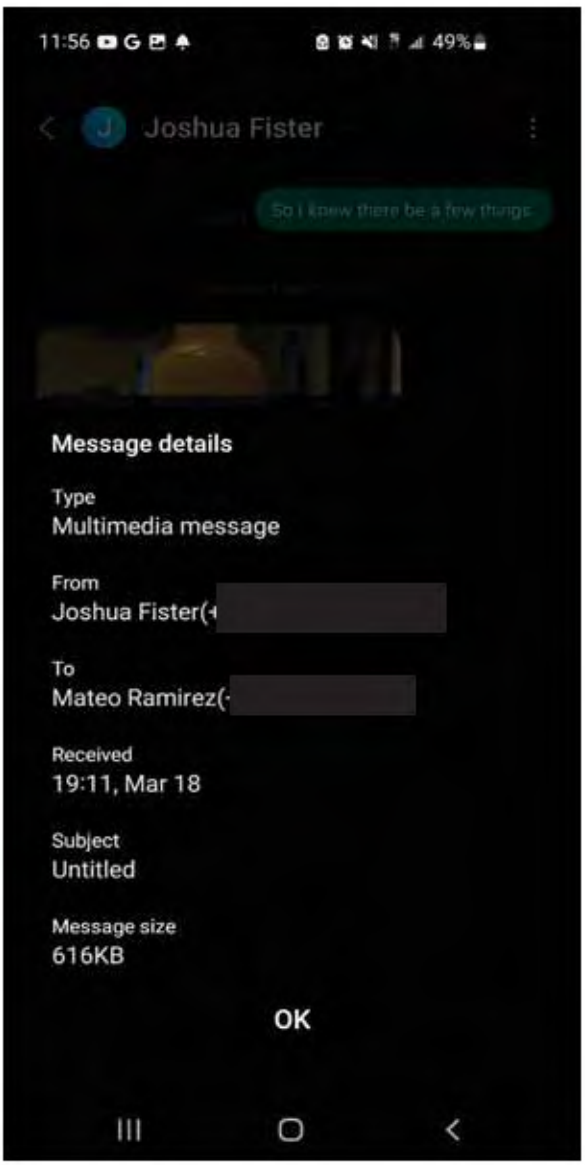
I then responded with a text message of my own that stated, "Makes me the [sic] of Sweet Potato Pie for some reason." FISTER responded "LMFAO" (Laughing My Fucking Ass Off). That was the end of the correspondence with each other.

Due to FISTER being in a position of power over me, I went along with the text message to prevent things from becoming awkward or experiencing retaliation.

Matthew Bennett

Lead Police Officer - Sergeant


Joshua Fister
Thursday, March 18, 2021
APPLES & BROWN SUGAR
Wife bought a new soap and I thought of you.
MMS
19:11
Makes me the of Sweet Potato Pie for some reason.
19:13
Lmfao
20:05
Thursday, April 15, 2021


11:56
49%
Joshua Fister
Message details
Type
Multimedia message
From
Joshua Fister(
To
Mateo Ramirez(
Received
19:11, Mar 18
Subject
Untitled
Message size
616KB
OK